

Connection with Downtown

The plan proposes to transform Iowa Avenue into a blending corridor between the park and downtown.



The blending corridor is created through resurfacing of roads, active building façades along the corridor, and constructing gateways to welcome visitors.



To create a more attractive public realm, vegetative screens and consistent landscaping are used to enhance the visual experience along the Mississippi Drive Corridor.



This corridor would be transformed into the main pedestrian access for visitors moving between the riverfront and downtown To create a more attractive public realm,

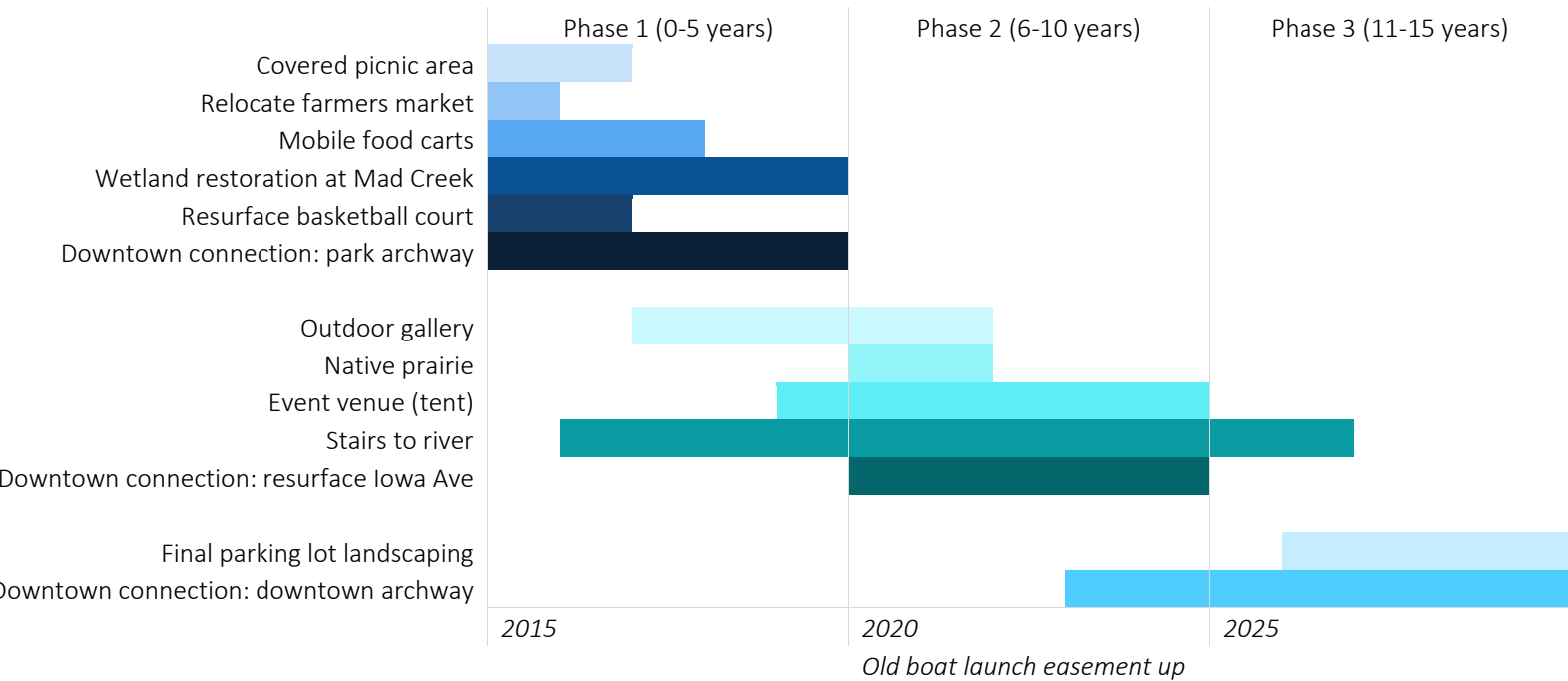
Project Goals

- » Better flow between park facilities
- » Improved connection with downtown
- » Identify community preferences
- » Reconcile the need for parking with the desire to maintain park-like aesthetic
- » Determine optimal use of large open expanse
- » Establish a unified identity for the area

Project Constraints

- » Flooding
- » Railroad & Highway Location
- » Facility Easements
- » Historic Character
- » Parking Needs
- » Views of the Mississippi River

Implementation Timeline

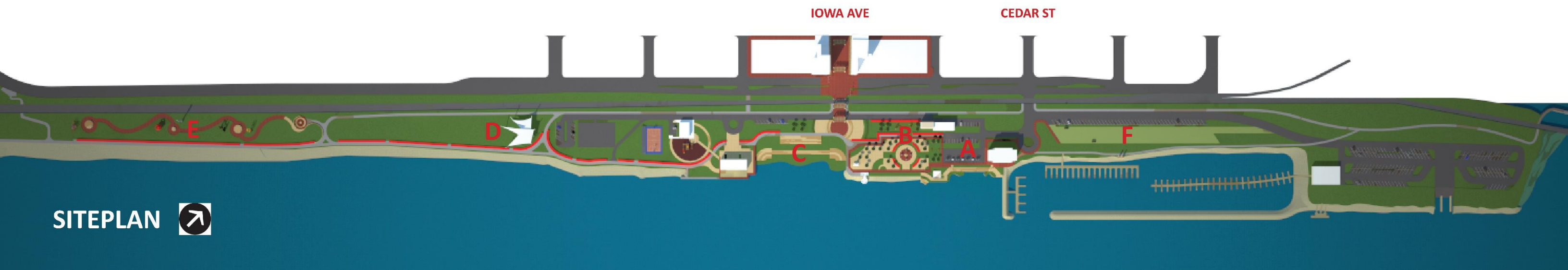


RIVERFRONT STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN

MUSCATINE, IOWA | MAY 2014

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A Working Ecosystem Theme for Muscatine's Riverfront Area

The Working Ecosystem theme is geared towards using natural elements in a controlled and managed way to adapt to constraints and highlight the riverfront's unique characteristics. Green infrastructure is installed throughout the park to help cope with flooding and reduce the amount of pollution that flows into the Mississippi River from Muscatine.



A. FARMER'S MARKET & FOOD CARTS
Relocating the existing farmer's market to Riverside Park will draw visitors to the riverfront on Saturday mornings. To draw visitors during the rest of the week, the plan recommends introducing mobile food vendors.



B. PICNIC AREA AND PLAYGROUND
Rearranging some of the existing parking will connect the splash pad and playground areas to makes the activity space safer and visually more pleasing while maximizing activity space.



C. STAIRS TO THE RIVER
A staircase down to the water connects people directly to river and emphasizes Riverside Park's defining natural feature.



D. EVENTS TENT
A deconstructible tent-style venue is recommended as the most practical and versatile option for this particular location.



E. NATIVE PRAIRIE WALKWAY & OUTDOOR ART GALLERY
An outdoor gallery landscaped with native prairie plants offers visitors the experience of viewing artistic representations of local culture while walking through a landscape that reflects Iowa's natural history.



F. GREEN PARKING
Grass pavers installed in overflow parking areas gives a more 'green' feel and expands activity areas while still providing parking for large events.